

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
September 3, 2014

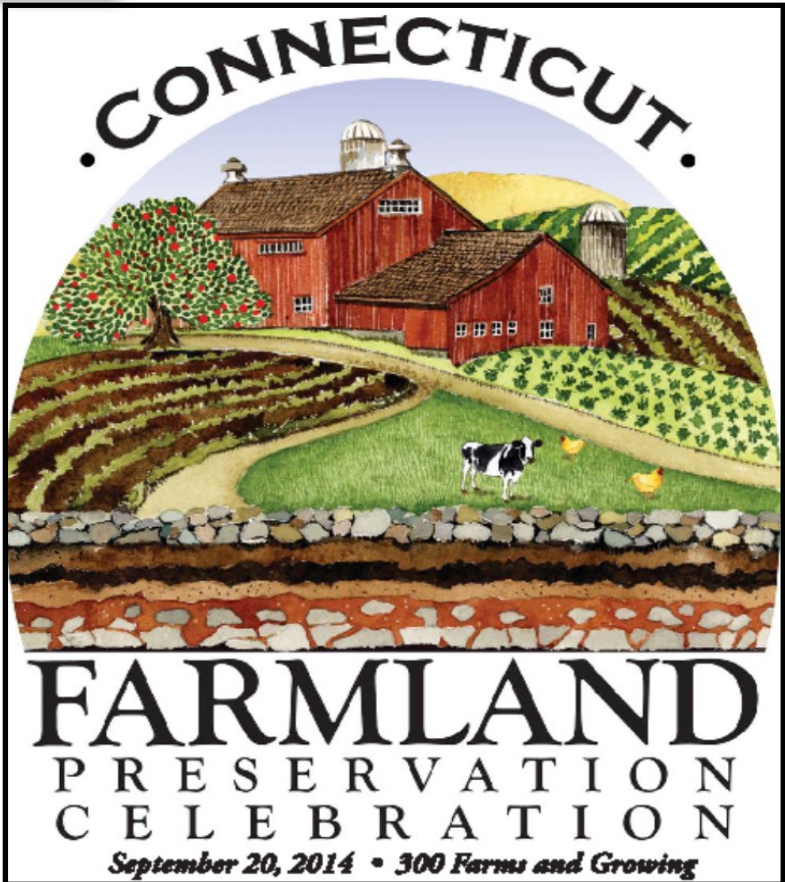
FARMLAND PRESERVATION CELEBRATION SEPT. 20 TO MARK PROTECTION OF 300 FARMS

By Steve Jensen, Office of Cmsr. Steven K. Reviczky

*"For 200 years they picked the stones.
They worked their fingers to the bone.
The land's been harrowed and been plowed,
In sun and rainy clouds.
It's fed a hungry people - until now.
They're coverin' up the land.
They're coverin' up the land.
You can't raise crops or pasture cattle worth a damn,
When all's your raisin' is houses on the farm.
I'm sure you have heard of urban sprawl,
Where you trade the blacktop soil for a mall.
See those houses trim and neat,
You can't eat that old concrete.
I'd rather feel the dirt beneath my feet."*

Those bluegrass lyrics and the spirit behind them will ring out across the Lebanon Green later this month as Connecticut's farm families gather at the Farmland Preservation Celebration, marking the recent milestone of 300 farms being protected by the Department of Agriculture.

Part-time farmer and Shady Creek band leader Nick Anderson wrote the song – "Houses on the Farm" - during the real estate boom about a decade ago when a surge of farms in Eastern Connecticut were sold and converted to residential subdivisions. "It's a protest song that I wrote from the gut," said Anderson, of Plainfield.



Nancy Barrett feeds beef cattle at her Somers farm, protected in 2011 under the state's Farmland Preservation Program.

"There's only so much farmland, and a lot of it where I used to mow hay now has houses on it. I've seen this going on for most of my life."

Shady Creek will perform a full set of traditional bluegrass, to be followed by square dancing led by well-known caller Joe LoPresti and his band, The Country Friends.

Other highlights include horse-drawn hay rides around the historic Green, a photographic display of preserved farms, and exhibits chronicling the progression of the state's Farmland Preservation Program.

Since the program was created in 1978 – one of the first in the nation – nearly 40,000 acres have been protected from development.

"Connecticut is home to some of the most productive soils in the country," Dept. of Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said. "This program is not only ensuring that these important soils continue to produce world-class crops, but is keeping intact for future generations the incredible legacy that Connecticut's farmers have built over centuries and is still thriving today."

Under Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, bond funding for the program has continued at about \$10 million annually, which Reviczky said has helped accelerate the number of farms that will be preserved each year.

(Continued on Page 3)

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, Sept. 2, 2014

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	60.00	70.00
61-75 lbs.	140.00	160.00
76-90 lbs.	270.00	275.00
91-105 lbs.	280.00	285.00
106 lbs. & up	200.00	300.00
Farm Calves	305.00	350.00
Starter Calves	75.00	80.00
Veal Calves	130.00	260.00
Open Heifers	117.50	140.00
Beef Steers	124.00	150.00
Beef Heifers	102.00	117.50
Feeder Steers	155.00	190.00
Stock Bulls	185.00	200.00
Beef Bulls	135.00	140.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	one at	55.00
Butcher Hogs	one at	115.00
Goats each	115.00	260.00
Kid Goats	50.00	115.00
Canners	up to	115.00
Cutters	116.00	120.00
Utility Grade Cows	122.00	127.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	28.00
Chickens each	5.00	25.00
Ducks each	10.00	22.00
Feeder Pigs	90.00	100.00
Lambs	85.00	180.00
Sheep	120.00	230.00

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.30	1.34
LARGE	1.28	1.32
MEDIUM	.99	1.03

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.61	1.76
LARGE	1.47	1.72
MEDIUM	1.24	1.35

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

		Low	High
49-54	200-300 lbs	80.00	87.00
	300-400 lbs	74.00	80.00
54-58	200-300 lbs	86.00	94.00
	300-400 lbs	86.00	91.00
Sows, US1-3	300-500 lbs	68.00	75.00
	500-700 lbs	77.00	82.50
Boars	595-830 lbs	44.50	44.50

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	LOW	HIGH
BLUEBERRIES 12/1PT,PULP	30.00	40.00
BEAN,CRANBERRY,BU	35.00	40.00
BEAN GREEN,MACH PICK,BU	18.00	18.00
BEAN GREEN,BU,HAND PICK	24.00	28.00
BEAN WAX, BU	22.00	22.00
BROCCOLI,CROWNS,20LB	23.00	24.00
CABBAGE, GREEN,50IB,BOX	9.00	10.00
ARUGULA,24'S	12.00	12.00
COLLARD	10.00	12.00
CORN,5DZ	8.00	12.00
CUCUMBER,PICKLES,1 1/9BU	24.00	24.00
PUMPKINS 36"BIN,PIE,MED	300.00	300.00
EGGPLANT,1 1/9 BU	8.00	10.00
KALE,12'S	10.00	14.00
KOHLRABI 12'S	16.00	16.00
SQUASH,KABOCHA,1 1/9BU	18.00	18.00
LEEKs 12'S	20.00	22.00
PEPPER,CUBANELLE 11/9BU	8.00	10.00
PEPPER,JALAPENO,1/2BU	10.00	10.00
PEPPER,BELL, GREEN XL	8.00	10.00
PEPPERS TRNING RED LGE	8.00	9.00
RHUBARB 20 IB LGE	35.00	35.00
SQUASH,YELLOW,FCY,1/2BU	16.00	18.00
SQUASH,YELLOW,MED,1/2BU	14.00	16.00
SQUASH, GREEN,FCY,1/2BU	14.00	16.00
SQUASH, GREEN,MED,1/2BU	12.00	14.00
SWISS CHARD,12'S	18.00	18.00
TOMATOES,HEIRLOOM,10LB	25.00	28.00
GRAPE,CONCORD ,8/1QT	27.00	27.00
APPLE,PAULA RED,BU	28.00	30.00
BLACKBERRIES 12-1/2PT	30.00	30.00
NECTARINES 22LB BOX	26.00	26.00
PEAR,CLAPP,4/5BU	30.00	30.00
PEACHES 1/2BU,YELLOW,2 1/2	24.00	24.00
PEACHES 22LB ,WHITE,2 1/2	24.00	26.00
PLUM,BLACK,20LB	30.00	30.00
TOMATOES 25 ILBS	10.00	20.00

WHOLESALE BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Northeast/Per lb.

	Low	High
BREAST-B/S	2.00	2.05
TENDERLOINS	2.25	2.30
LEGS	.57	.58
LEG QUARTERS	.44	.45
THIGHS	.72	.73
B/S THIGHS	1.18	1.19
WINGS	1.49	1.50
LIVER,5LB TUBS	.55	.60
GIZZARDS	.75	.80

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Average Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	Low	High
breakers 75-80% lean	108.50	113.75
boners 80-85% lean	105.00	109.75
lean 85-90% lean	98.00	103.50
CALVES graded bull		
No 110-120lbs	295.00	330.00
No 2 110-120lbs	272.00	312.00
No 3 80-12 0lbs	221.00	279.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm2-3	158.25	161.00
Ch2-3	150.00	153.00
Sel2-3	144.00	149.50
SLAUGHTER STEERS.		
HiCh/prm3-4	158.00	162.25
Ch2-3	151.00	154.50
Sel2-3	146.00	149.75
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm3-4	144.50	148.25
Ch2-3	138.00	141.75
Sel2-3	132.75	137.50
VEALERS	53.00	105.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
40-60lbs	n/a	
60-80lb	190.00	212.00
80-110lbs	185.00	202.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
110-130lbs	92.00	108.00
130-140lbs	92.00	96.00
Bucks		
120-150.lbs	97.00	147.00
180-190lbs	94.00	107.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by head, est.		
20-40lb	n/a	n/a
40-60lb	130.00	167.00
60-80lb	162.00	207.00
80-100lb	183.00	222.00
Nannies/Does: 110-130lbs	152.00	157.00
130-180lbs	150.00	180.00
Bucks/Billies: 125-150lbs	260.00	260.00
150-210lbs	235.00	295.00

PA GRADED FEEDER PIGS

Lancaster, PA, per cwt. Aug. 20

Gr US 1-	WT 15-20	Low	High
	WT 20-30	310.00	350.00
	WT 30-40	225.00	300.00
	WT 40-60	235.00	275.00
	WT 60-80	160.00	190.00
		175.00	200.00

EASTERN, PA, GRAIN

average price per bushel

CORN	3.91
BARLEY	2.45
SOYBEANS	12.90

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

108-R. Purebred Katahdin Ram for sale. Great producer, registration papers available, mostly white. \$350.00. 860-354-9069.

112-R. 2011 Greenhouse 25 X 60, Furnace, Roth Oil Tank, Fans, Micro Gro, Poly Gal Ends Doors, roll up sides, Sodium lights, Benches, \$6,500. 203-233-9677. Photos available. Martymonroe-gardens@gmail.com.

113-R. John Deere 1050 Tractor 4WD/Loader/3PH. Excellent shape, low hours. One owner, always garaged \$12,500. Call 203-457-1949.

115-R. 53.9 acres, Hebron: Frontage on two roads; previous cattle farm; excellent soil; lightly wooded with many trails; driveway in, building lot cleared. Abutter would like to purchase up to 25 acres. 860-872-6637. \$300,000.

117-R. Rough sawn hemlock and white pine lumber, great for fall time repairs and new construction. Also, year end inventory bargains on air dried oak and mixed hardwood lumber sold as units of approx.. 500 board feet each. We welcome your custom orders to be sawn. Hinman Lumber, Burlington, CT 860-673-9170.

MISCELLANEOUS

10-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

116-R. Diversify your farming operation. Add Alpacas & fiber to your product lines. Huacaya & Suri, 22 colors, breeding services. Call ThreeNieceFarm at 860-455-0485, online at www.threeniecefarm.com

NORTHEAST GREENHOUSE CONFERENCE AND EXPO NOV. 5 AND 6

Commercial greenhouse growers and retailers can join UConn Extension at the Northeast Greenhouse Conference and Expo that will be held November 5 and 6th at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield, MA.

The Northeast Greenhouse Conference and Expo is sponsored by the Extension programs of the six New England State Universities, New York State and New England Floriculture, Inc. For more information on the Northeast Greenhouse Conference and Expo, visit the website, www.negreenhouse.org or contact: Delaney Meeting & Event Management: Phone: 802-865-5202/ Fax: 802-865-8066 or Email: info@negreenhouse.org

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The Governor is scheduled to speak at the Sept. 20 event, which is free, open to the public and runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. He also will issue an official proclamation recognizing the day of celebration and the program's success in preserving "agricultural production to provide for countless generations to come."

Horse-drawn hay rides will take visitors to a number of historic sites and museums around the mile-long Green, where hay is still harvested by owners of surrounding properties.

Stops will include the former home of Jonathan Trumbull, the state's Governor during the Revolutionary War, and the War Office where he and other leaders including Gen. George Washington planned military strategy.

The photo display will include those submitted by participants in the preservation program, as well as an exhibit by professional photographer Jack McConnell, of Old Wethersfield, who will show images and a video from his recent CT Farm Project.

A variety of CT Grown food will be available, including sandwiches and other lunch items. Apples, cider, chocolates, coffee, milk and ice cream will be offered by Buell's Orchard in Eastford, Ash-lawn Farm in Lyme, and The Farmer's Cow, a collaboration of several dairy farms in Lebanon and surrounding towns.

Children's activities include a hay maze and an inflatable, enclosed "bouncy cow," as well as free temporary CT Grown tattoos and toy airplanes emblazoned with the Farmland Preservation Celebration logo.

Exhibitors will include organizations which partner with the Dept. of Agriculture in the preservation program, such as the federal USDA/Natural Resource Conservation Service, the CT Farmland Trust and the Working Lands Alliance.

The preservation program allows farmers to convey development rights to the state, but still own and work the land. Owners also may convey their land to others, but a permanent deed restriction assures the property will always remain available for agricultural production.

One of the relatively recent entrants into the program was Scantic Valley Farms in Somers, which in 2011 conveyed its development rights to 70 acres that have been in production since at least the late 1700s.

Owner Nancy Barrett's grandparents bought the farm in 1936, raising potatoes and tobacco and fertilized eggs they sold to larger producers.

With the help of her husband Andy, her two pre-teen sons and her father, Richard Hutton, she now focuses on raising strawberries and blueberries, and running a pick-your-own pumpkin operation in the fall alongside an 8-acre corn maze.

Her 50 Belted Galloway beef cows and some pigs produce meat that she sells during monthly open houses, and turns into specialty hamburgers and hot dogs cooked and sold during the fall events.

Barrett says she feels very lucky to be farming, and to be able to instill in her sons the values that hard work and caring for animals and crops fosters.

The Farmland Preservation Program, she said, was vital in ensuring that the farm remain in production, whether by hers or another family.

"We wanted to make sure that even if we are no longer able to farm here, somebody else will," she said. "We felt very deeply that it was the right thing to do."

**For updates on the Farmland Preservation Celebration,
Please visit our Facebook page:
facebook.com/FarmlandPreservationCelebration**





SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Woodstock Fairgrounds

Rte 169, Woodstock Connecticut

Free Admission/Free Parking

Open to the Public/Rain or Shine!

Join us for a

Hearty Farm Breakfast

9:00 - 11:00 AM

Donation

Adults - \$5.00, Children under 10 - \$3.00

Agricultural Displays

Events/Demonstrations

Egg Activities

Forestry Fair & Competition

Old & New Farm Equipment

Entertainment

Food & Farm Products

Scavenger Hunt

Hay Rides & Farm Tour

Children's Activities

Horses, Cows & More!

People Mover

**Info: Danielson USDA Service Center
(860) 779-0557, ext. 109 or visit us at:
www.celebratingagriculture.org**

Also on Sept. 20, the 14th annual Celebrating Agriculture event will be held about 30 miles northeast of the Lebanon Green at the Woodstock Fairgrounds.

The event attracts dozens of exhibitors and vendors and encourages education and participation in farming, forestry and all facets of agriculture. The Dept. of Agriculture will have a booth at the event, which also features hay rides, food and children's entertainment.

"This is a historic, fun day for families and friends to come together and celebrate," said Lynn Weaver, Chairman of Celebrating Agriculture. "Both this event and the Farmland Celebration Preservation recognize the importance of public support and how buying local crops and products helps keep our farmers in business and support a viable agriculture economy in our state."



Above, hay harvesting equipment at the edge of the mile-long Lebanon Green, site of the Farmland Preservation Celebration scheduled for Sept. 20. Below, a forestry demonstration at last year's Celebrating Agriculture event, which this year is also scheduled for Sept. 20 at the Woodstock Fairgrounds.



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